

English 10

Anthem Academic Essay Assessment

This assignment is student driven. You, the student, must decide on a topic. Write a formal academic essay related to the novelette, *Anthem*, by Ayn Rand. You may choose to discuss one of the elements of literature, i.e. explain your analysis of setting, conflict, resolution, character(s) or theme. You may choose the more difficult task of discussing the novel as it relates to Rand's philosophy of Objectivism. You may also choose your own unique approach to discussing the novelette. Whatever choice you make, you must demonstrate understanding of the novel by referencing the text and incorporate an outside resource (articles of the week) for support as well. (Three is the magic number for support, but it is considered a minimal requirement.)

The length requirement is "whatever it takes to communicate your point thoroughly." Writing must be clear, coherent, and organized.

Format:

- 12 point font (Times Roman/Arial/Georgia/or similar style)
- Double Space
- Third person (the voice of authority)
- Consistent Verb Tense: present (literary works are timeless)
- Parenthetical References: "Quotes must be exact" (30).

Topic Ideas:

- What message seems to be important? Is there more than one message to the novel? If so, what?
- How is Rand's philosophy of Objectivism portrayed in the novel?
- How does the main character change?
- Why is Rand's journal entry style effective? Would a different style also be effective? If so, what style would you suggest?
- Why does Equality choose the names Prometheus and Gaea? Are they appropriate? Do these names make a difference in the novel's message? If so, how?
- How do the Unmentionable Times represent our modern day society?
- Why does Rand choose to have Equality discover light rather than a different technological advancement? Would any other example work in the novel?